

(Amount in Crores of Rupees)

Year	Total No. of rural branches which had incurred losses	Total amount of losses incurred
1992-93	5850	132.00
1993-94	5936	161.83
1994-95	4910	140.21

As regards the principal amount and interest written off during the above period, RBI has reported that its present data maintenance system does not generate information as asked for.

In so far as cooperative banks are concerned, information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Vacant Posts of Judges

4534. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued directives to fill up the vacant posts of judges in the various High Courts of the country at the earliest;

(b) if so, whether the Government have appointed some learned lawyers also on the vacant posts of judges; and

(c) if so, the number of such lawyers who have been appointed as judges the High Court-wise and the criterion fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c). Appointments of Judges in various High Courts are made by the President of India in accordance with the criteria laid down in Article 217 of the Constitution of India. The Chief Justices of the High Courts and the State constitutional authorities are requested from time to time for making recommendations for filling up vacant posts of Judges in the High Courts. A *Statement* showing the number of Judges from the Bar in each High Court as on 1.9.1996 is attached.

#### STATEMENT

As on 1.9.1996

Sl. No.	High Court	Number of Judges from		
		Bar	Service	Total
1.	Allahabad	38	26	64
2.	Andhra Pradesh	22	15	37
3.	Bombay	36	15	51
4.	Calcutta	22	18	40
5.	Delhi	18	10	28
6.	Gauhati	12	5	17
7.	Gujarat	19	11	30
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	3	8
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	4	10
10.	Karnataka	20	10	30
11.	Kerala	17	6	23
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16	12	28
13.	Madras	17	6	23
14.	Orissa	9	5	14
15.	Patna	20	13	33
16.	Punjab & Haryana	16	17	33
17.	Rajasthan	20	12	32
18.	Sikkim	1	1	2
		314	189	503

#### Export of Cotton

4535. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of cotton permitted for export from Gujarat particularly from the tribal dominated areas during the current season;

(b) the quantum of cotton exported by the Government of Gujarat so far;

(c) the quantum of cotton requested for export by the Government of Gujarat; and

(d) the reasons for giving permission of lesser quantity of cotton to be exported from the State?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) and (b). Government of India have allocated a quota of 1.15 lakh bales of cotton for export to Gujarat State Marketing Federation. Besides this a quota of 3.10 lakh bales was opened to all including Federations and private trade and 2.00 lakh bales was allotted to modern ginning and pressing units during the current cotton season of 1995-96.

Out of the quota released to Gujarat this year, some 48,275 bales were reported to have been shipped by Gujarat Federation till 27/8/96.

(c) and (d). Gujarat Government had early in the Cotton Season of 1995-96 requested for an export quota of 5 lakh bales of cotton. Keeping this request in view, a sizeable quota was released to the Gujarat Federation. This quota is yet to be exhausted by them.

[English]

#### Presumptive Income Tax Scheme

4536. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the presumptive Income Tax Scheme introduced in 1992-93 budget in a bid to widen the tax base has been successful;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make the scheme successful?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The statistics regarding number of persons opting for Presumptive Tax Scheme and the tax collected under the Presumptive Tax Scheme since inception are given below:

Financial Year	No. of Persons	Tax collected (Rs. in crs.)
1992-93	116644	16.47
1993-94	195600	27.53
1994-95	356322	49.96
1995-96	251824*	35.39*

\* Provisional figures.

The results of Presumptive Tax Scheme are not found to be as encouraging as they were expected.

(b) It appears that the small businessmen and persons carrying on specified vocations have not fully appreciated the benefits flowing from the Presumptive Tax Scheme. As a result there has been less than expected enthusiasm about availing of the benefits of the scheme.

(c) Steps have been taken and are proposed to be intensified to give wide publicity to the scheme through print and electronic media and also through holding of meetings with the tax-payers and trade associations etc.

[Translation]

#### Export of Coffee

4537. SHRI KACHARU BHARU RAUT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of coffee exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during last year;

(b) the target fixed for the export of coffee during the current year; and

(c) the steps being taken to increase the export of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total quantity of coffee exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last year is given below :

Year	Qty. exported (in tonnes)	Foreign exchange earned (US\$ million)
1995-96	167956	438.33

(b) The Government has fixed export target of 1,50,000 tonnes of coffee during the current year.

(c) In order to boost exports, the Board under its export promotion programme is taking up the following steps :

- (i) Regular participation in important coffee fairs abroad;
- (ii) Media publicity campaign to popularise Indian coffee besides production of a T.V. film on Indian coffee.
- (iii) Conducting regular market survey and deputation of business negotiation delegation to foreign markets; and
- (iv) Inviting foreign market teams to the country to popularise Indian coffee.